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19 May 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Meeting with the Russell Subcommittee

1. This memorandum is for information only.
2. Acting on the Agency's suggestion, Senator Russell has asked for a meeting today at 5:30 p.m. Russell is interested in hearing about South Viet Nam and Southeast Asia generally. It was also indicated that Russell might be interested in a few more details on the situation of the newly found microphones in the American Embassy in Moscow. (Security will make available documents on this later in the afternoon.)
3. It is difficult to anticipate other topics that will come up. However, it seems likely that questions will be asked about Panama and Cuba. The Director may also wish to comment briefly on the two books, The Bay of Pigs and The Invisible Government.
4. Of course, Senator Russell has been extremely busy with general military legislation, appropriations matters and civil rights. House-passed legislation is beginning to pile up in the Senate Committee and it seems likely that many of the lesser priority items will not be acted on. I believe it appropriate to urge Senator Russell to consider our retirement legislation. Probably it would not consume a great deal of time and it would be a considerable setback if the work already accomplished, that is House passage, were to go down the drain because of Senate inaction since we would have to start afresh with the 89th Congress. Further, it would certainly be a setback to Agency morale and deprive us of a helpful tool in bringing down various components to current ceilings.

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